

COASTAL

Vision for North Carolina

North Carolina's beautiful beaches attract millions of visitors each year, making tourism a top industry for the coastal region. International shipping and fishing also contribute significantly to the area's economy. These three industries combined generate more than \$10 billion and tens of thousands of jobs in our state annually.

Interestingly, the unique environment that makes the region attractive to businesses and tourists also creates serious challenges. Severe weather and erosion threaten our bridges, shrink our beaches and endanger the roads that run alongside them. Without implementing the solutions listed below, we risk losing important coastal connections, thousands of jobs and millions of dollars to support our state.

INVESTING IN SOLUTIONS



Sustainable Beach Nourishment

• Coordinate with local, state and federal partners to develop and implement a proactive, long-range plan for sustainable beach nourishment to protect infrastructure.



Improve Highway Connections

• Continue to improve highway routes, which provide access to the coast and offer congestion relief during seasonal traffic peaks, while serving as essential emergency evacuation routes.



Replace Aging Bridges

• Continue work to replace aging bridges, keeping important connections for residents, businesses and tourists in place.



Stabilize Inlets

 Develop and implement a proactive, long-range plan for stabilizing our shallow draft inlets and shipping channels, providing important opportunities for industry and improved reliability for our vital ferry routes

Transform North Carolina Ports



- Pursue including a recommendation in the Army Corps of Engineers Chief's Report to deepen and widen our channels to support movements of the newest generation of shipping vessels.
- Develop intermodal train service at the Port of Wilmington.
- Continue to seek opportunities to develop intermodal facilities along the I-95 corridor to support freight shipping.
- Leverage public-private partnerships to complete the development of Radio Island, and support landside improvements in interstate quality connections and enhanced rail access to the Port of Morehead City.

For more information, visit nevision25.gov or email implementingvision@ncdot.gov.

